

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 EUR-12 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15
STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 AF-10
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090651

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJECT: SUGAR: TRADE POLICY STAFF COMMITTEE (TPSC)
RECOMMENDATION TO THE PRESIDENT

LONDON FOR THIGPEN

1. ON APRIL 20, 1977 THE TRADE POLICY STAFF COMMITTEE
(TPSC) MET AND APPROVED THE FOLLOWING POSITION ON SUGAR.

2. BEGIN QUOTE - THE TPSC RECOMMENDS THAT NO IMPORT RELIEF
BE GRANTED ON SUGAR AND THAT INCOME SUPPORT PAYMENTS BE
MADE TO DOMESTIC PRODUCERS, PENDING NEGOTIATION OF A
NEW INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT (OPTION 6A). COMMERCE,
DEFENSE, INTERIOR, LABOR, STATE, TREASURY, AND STR
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SUPPORT THIS RECOMMENDATION. AGRICULTURE RECOMMENDS
INCREASED TARIFF PROTECTION AND A PRICE SUPPORT LOAN
PROGRAM (OPTION 6B) AND WOULD FURTHER PROTECT THE PROGRAM
WITH A "NON-RESTRICTIVE" QUOTA PROGRAM OF 4.6 TO 4.8
MILLION TONS. THE TARIFF INCREASE, THE "NON-RESTRICTIVE"
QUOTA AND THE PRICE SUPPORT LOAN PROGRAM WOULD BE INTERIM
MEASURES PENDING NEGOTIATION OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL SUGAR

AGREEMENT.

WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUE OF SUGAR AND THE GENERALIZED

SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES (GSP) THE TPSC RECOMMENDS THAT THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION'S PETITION TO WITHDRAW GSP FROM SUGAR BE DENIED. AGRICULTURE, DEFENSE, INTERIOR, LABOR, STATE, TREASURY, AND STR SUPPORTED THIS RECOMMENDATION. COMMERCE PREFERRED THAT THE PETITION BE ACCEPTED BUT AGREED TO ACCEPT THE MAJORITY RECOMMENDATION. BOTH COMMERCE AND LABOR NOTED THAT, IN THE LIGHT OF THE ITC FINDING OF A THREAT OF INJURY, THEY BELIEVED THAT SUGAR WAS IMPORT SENSITIVE.

THE TPSC AGREED TO DEFER THE DECISION ON WHETHER TO DESIGNATE COUNTRIES THAT ARE PRESENTLY INELIGIBLE FOR GSP BUT THAT SHIPPED LESS THAN THE COMPETITIVE NEED LIMIT LAST YEAR. (GSP OPTION II-4). END QUOTE.

3. THE TPSC REPORT AND AN ACCOMPANYING MEMO WERE SENT APRIL 21 TO THE WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESIDENTIAL DECISION.

A COMPLETE COPY OF TPSC PAPER IS BEING POUCHED TO DELEGATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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